

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-03 NRC-05 ACDA-05 /114 W
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R 291414Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2897

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

47\$(4?/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 2914

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 2355

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, RO

SUBJECT: GREEK PREMIER CARAMANLIS VISIT TGIROMANIA: MAY 26-27

1. SUMMARY. ACCENT DURING CARAMANLIS VISIT WAS ON
IMPROVEMENT OF RECENTLY REVIVED BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP, WITH A HOPED-
FOR DOUBLING OF 1971-75 TRADE DURING THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, AND
PROSPECTS FOR INCREASED BALKAN COOPERATION, INCLUDING JOINT
SUGGESTION FOR INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MEETING OF BALKAN STATES.
THE TWO LEADERS EXCHANGED DECORATIONS, WERE
INTERVIEWED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE PRESS, AND
FREQUENTLY PLAYED UPON HISTORICAL BASIS FOR CLOSE GREEK-
ROMANIAN TIES. ROMANIANS SUCCESSFULLY SOUGHT TO PREVENT
CARAMANLIS VISIT FROM BEING TOO GREATLY OVERSHADOWED BY
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TUMULTUOUS GREETINGS GOR HAD ORGANIZED FOR NORTH KOREAN

LEADER, KIM IL-SUNG, WHO LEFT BUCHAREST SAME DAY GREEK PREMIER ARRIVED. BOTH CEAUSESCU AND PRIME MINISTER MANESCU RECEIVED INVITATIONS TO VISIT GREECE AT UNSPECIFIED DATE IN FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

2. ASIDE FROM COMMUNIQUE AND SOLEMN JOINT DECLARATION, WHOSE SIGNING WAS TELEVIEWED NATION-WIDE, ONLY OTHER OFFICIAL DOCUMENT WAS COOPERATIVE "UNDERSTANDING" BETWEEN GREEK AND ROMANIAN RADIO-TV. HOWEVER, FOURTH SESSION OF JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION TO BE HELD IN ATHENS IN SEP-OCTOBER THIS YEAR IS SCHEDULED, ACCORDING TO COMMUNIQUE, TO CONCLUDE A LONG-TERM ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION ACCORD, AS WELL AS STUDY DOCUMENTS RELATING TO INCREASED COOPERATION IN FIELDS OF COMMERCE, PETROLEUM (IN HIS "KATHIMERINI" INTERVIEW, CEAUSESCU INDICATED ROMANIAN WILLINGNESS ASSIST GREEKS IN EXPLORATION AND EXPLOITATION OF OIL DEPOSITS), ENERGY, FINANCE, PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY AND CULTURE. COMMUNIQUE ALSO NOTES BOTH SIDES WILL ENCOURAGE JOINT VENTURES IN FIELDS OF ENERGY, INDUSTRY, TRANSPORT AND AGRICULTURE, AMONG OTHERS.

3. BALKAN COOPERATION RECEIVED EXPECTED ATTENTION, ALTHOUGH CARAMANLIS ADMITTED IN TOAST THAT GREEK EFFORTS TOWARDS PROMOTING MULTILATERAL RELATIONS IN BALKANS HANDICAPPED BY TENSE SITUATION WITH TURKEY. BOTH SIDES AGREED ENCOURAGE CREATION OF NEW "INTER-BALKAN ORGANS" OF COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL-SCIENTIFIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS, ADDING THAT, IN THIS REGARD, THEY STOOD READY PARTICIPATE IN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS WITH OTHER BALKAN STATES, A PROPOSAL WE HAVE NOT SEEN BEFORE. IN HIS "KATHIMERINI" INTERVIEW CEAUSESCU LINKED BALKAN DISARMAMENT MEASURES MORE CLOSELY WITH PRIOR WORLD-WIDE AND EUROPEAN PROGRESS IN THAT FIELD THAN HE HAD IN PAST.

4. CYPRUS ISSUES PRESENTED LITTLE PROBLEM AS BOTH SIDES PRESENTLY SHARE MANY OF SAME OPINIONS REGARDING ACCEPTABLE MEANS TO A SOLUTION. GRAVITY OF SITUATION WAS NOTED AND ALL COUNTRIES, BUT ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE REGION, URGED TO UNDERTAKE EFFECTIVE DIPLOMATIC ACTION TO PRESERVE PEACE AND CYPRIOT INDEPENDENCE, INCLUDING CONTINUANCE OF INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA AND NICOSIA UNDER UN SYG AUSPICES. NO MENTION MADE OF ROMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU'S EARLIER ABORTIVE SUGGESTION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A BALKAN CONFERENCE ON CYPRUS. GREEK AMBASSADOR TOLD CHARGE ROMANIANS TROD VERY CAREFULLY ON THIS TURF, NOTING (AND NOT EMPHASIZING) ONLY THAT AS FELLOW BALKAN THEY READY TO OFFER ASSISTANCE IN SEEKING A SOLUTION, BUT ONLY IF ASKED.

5. COMMENT: ROMANIANS HAD MANY REASONS TO WELCOME THIS VISIT. IN FIRST INSTANCE, TRANSITION OF GREEK GOVERNMENT FROM MILITARY DICTATORSHIP TO "PROGRESSIVE" DEMOCRACY IS SEEN HERE AS

ANOTHER INDICATION OF CURRENT "FAVORABLE TRENDS" AT WORK IN WORLD.
ALSO IT WAS CARAMANLIS HIMSELF WHO IN 1956 FIRST REESTABLISHED
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA AND THIS VISIT WAS FIRST OF
GREEK CHIEF OF STATE SINCE THAT TIME, A FACT APPRECIATIVELY
NOTED IN COMMUNIQUE. ROMANIANS ALSO APPROVE OF GREEK DECISION
TO OPT OUT OF MILITARY SIDE OF NATO, AND PERHAPS TAKING HIS
CUE FROM THAT, CEAUSESCU IN HIS PRESS INTERVIEW, WAS EVEN MORE
CRITICAL THAN USUAL OF (ALL) MILITARY BLOCS WHICH DO NOT
ADD ANYTHING TO SECURITY OF THEIR MEMBERS, BUT RATHER CONSTITUTE
A "SOURCE OF TENSION AND PERMANENT DANGER". FINALLY,
ROMANIANS HAVE AN OBVIOUS INTEREST IN ENCOURAGING GREEK SUPPORT
OF THEIR OWN LONG PROCLAIMED, BUT LITTLE REALIZED, POLICY OF
EXTENDED BALKAN COOPERATION.
VIETS

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